

**EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE
MATHEMATICS 135 – MATH FOR LIBERAL ARTS (ONLINE)
SUMMER SEMESTER 2009**

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SUCCESSFUL ONLINE STUDENT

Before registering for this online course verify that you are sufficiently prepared for the demands of an online course. This online course requires:

- Computer literacy
- Time
- The ability to work independently
- The ability to read notes and examples from the textbook
- Experienced users of email with attachments
- Experienced navigators of the World Wide Web
- Willingness to contact WebCT support at webctsupport@easternct.edu if necessary when encountering technical difficulties
- The ability to download files, save files and upload files
- The ability to download and install free software from the Internet
- Access to and the ability to use/learn Excel

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Name: Dr. K. Y. Ward
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COURSE INFORMATION

Title: Math for Liberal Arts (ONLINE)
Credit: Three Hours
Section: E25

PRE-REQUISITES

MAT 101 or placement or SAT score

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Comap, *For All Practical Purposes*, 8th edition, W. H. Freeman and Company

SUPPLEMENTARY TOOLS AND SERVICES

- 1). TI-83/84 graphing calculators or equivalent (no cell phone calculators)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Mathematics applied to solving practical problems in political science, sociology, ecology, geography, visual arts and geometry. Mathematical methods are used to examine how groups make voting decisions, achieve power, divide resources, resolve conflicts, to study landscape species patterns, economic and biological population growth, and artistic and mosaic patterns.

COURSE DELIVERY

All course related materials will be posted in Blackboard. Course material will be uploaded every weekday by 8 am. All notes will be located under the "Learning Modules" tab and all homework assignments will be located under the "Assignments" tab. **Students are required to check the tabs every weekday for lectures, assignments, discussions and to keep current with the course.**

LEARNING MODULES AND OBJECTIVES

The course material is divided into four learning modules. Within each learning module there will be several lectures followed by respective homework assignment(s). The content of the learning modules are as follows:

Module 1: Identification Numbers

We will cover sections from Chapter 16 which covers composing/validating identification numbers.

Objectives

1. Understand the purpose of a check digit and be able to determine one for various schemes
2. Given an identification number and the scheme used to determine it, be able to decide if the number is a valid number for the scheme
3. Given an identification number and the scheme, use it to decipher the information such as birth, date and sex
4. Be able to convert a given ZIP code to its corresponding bar code, and vice versa
5. Be able to convert a given UPC number to its corresponding bar code

Module 2: Voting

We will cover sections from Chapter 9 which looks at various techniques of voting.

Objectives

1. Analyze and interpret preference list ballots
2. Explain three desired properties of Majority Rule
3. Apply the plurality voting method to determine the winner in an election whose preference list ballots are given

4. Explain the Condorcet winner criterion
5. Rearrange preference list ballots to accommodate the elimination of one or more candidates
6. Structure two alternative contests from a preference schedule by rearranging preference list ballots; then determine whether a Condorcet winner exists
7. Apply the Borda count method to determine the winner from preference list ballots
8. Apply the sequential pairwise voting method to determine the winner from preference list ballots
9. Apply the Hare system to determine the winner from preference list ballots

Module 3: Fair Division

We will cover sections from Chapter 13 which include topics about strategies to divide items.

Objectives

1. Describe the goal of a fair division problem
2. Use the adjusted winner procedure to determine the division of a set of objects among two players
3. Use the Knaster inheritance procedure to determine the division of a set of objects among more than two players

Module 4: Finance

We will cover sections from Chapters 21 and 22 which include topics about saving and borrowing money.

Objectives

1. Apply the simple interest formula to calculate the balance of a savings account
2. Apply the compound interest formula to calculate the balance of a savings account
3. Describe the difference between arithmetic and geometric growth
4. Apply the interest formula for continuous compounding to calculate the

- balance of a savings account
5. Use the savings formula to determine required deposits into a sinking fund
 6. Know the basic loan terms principal and interest
 7. Be able to solve the simple interest formula to find the amount of a loan over time
 8. Understand the compound interest formula and use it to find the amount of a loan over time
 9. Use the amortization formula to determine the payments required to fully amortize a loan
 10. Understand how an annuity functions and be able to use the annuity formula

CONTENT OF LEARNING MODULES

LEARNING MODULE 1: IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS

ORDER OF ACTIVITY	TOPIC
Lecture 1	Check Digits
Lecture 2	UPC
Lecture 3	U.S. Banking System
Lecture 4	Codabar Method
Homework Assignment 1	Material from Lectures 1 - 4
Lecture 5	ISBN
Lecture 6	Zip Codes, Zip + 4 Codes
Lecture 7	Bar Codes and Zip Code Bar Code
Lecture 8	Decimal Digits and Several Examples
Lecture 9	Delivery Point Bar Code and UPC Bar Code
Lecture 10	Soundex Coding System
Lecture 11	Driver's License Schemes
Homework Assignment 2	Material from Lectures 5 - 11

LEARNING MODULE 2: VOTING

ORDER OF ACTIVITY

TOPIC

Lecture 1	Background
Lecture 2	Plurality Voting and Condorcet winner
Lecture 3	Borda Count
Lecture 4	Sequential Pairwise Voting
Lecture 5	Hare System
Homework Assignment 3.....	Material from Lectures 1 - 5

LEARNING MODULE 3: FAIR DIVISION

ORDER OF ACTIVITY

TOPIC

Lecture 1	Taking Turns
Lecture 2	Adjusted Winner Procedure
Lecture 3	Knaster Inheritance Procedure
Homework Assignment 4.....	Material from Lectures 1 - 3

LEARNING MODULE 4: FINANCE

ORDER OF ACTIVITY

TOPIC

Lecture 1	Simple Interest
Lecture 2	Compound Interest
Lecture 3	Compounded continuously
Homework Assignment 5.....	Material from Lectures 1 - 3
Lecture 4	Saving: Example for needing an annuity
Lecture 5	Borrowing: car loan
Lecture 6	Borrowing: credit cards
Homework Assignment 6.....	Material from Lectures 4 - 6
Lecture 7	Borrowing: home loans (30 vs. 15 yr.)
Lecture 8	Borrowing: home loans (paying additional to 30 yr. vs. biweekly)
Lecture 9	Borrowing: home loans (summary)
Homework Assignment 7.....	Material from Lectures 7 - 9

COMMUNICATION TOOLS

A. BLACKBOARD MAIL

All students will send email using the Blackboard mail tool. I will respond to all email messages within 48 hours, except on weekends.

B. DISCUSSION BOARD

In order to encourage communication and collaboration with classmates, we will have online discussions about the course material. I will post a question for each learning module of the course under the "Discussions" tab in Blackboard. This question will encourage students to think about the "big picture" of how mathematics can be applied to everyday life. In your responses, you may initiate the discussion or respond to another student's entry. This is the class participation part of the course and you will be evaluated on the quality, relevance, and clarity of your responses. In addition to your formal contributions to the Discussion Board, you are encouraged to use the Discussion Board to find answers to your course related questions and provide answers to the questions of your classmates on an informal (not graded) basis.

SUBMITTING YOUR WORK

All coursework will either be submitted to me directly under the **Assignment** tab or placed under the **Discussion Board** tab in Blackboard. In order for me to effectively manage an online course, I am requiring all students to use the following file naming system when submitting work: **FirstName.LastName.AssignmentNumber**. For example, if your name is John Smith and you are completing Assignment 1, then name your file **JohnSmith[1]** before submitting. The turnaround time for homework assignment results will be 48 hours.

EVALUATION

Your progress in this course will be evaluated using homework assignments and discussion board participation.

Homework Assignments.....	90%
Discussion Board Participation.....	10%

The **Grading Scale** is as follows:

95	-	100	A
90	-	94	A-
87	-	89	B+
84	-	86	B
80	-	83	B-
77	-	79	C+
74	-	76	C
70	-	73	C-
65	-	69	D+
60	-	64	D
0	-	59	F

MAKEUP POLICY

Late homework assignments **will not** be accepted and there will be **no makeup** homework assignments given. When computing the final course grade, the lowest homework assignment grade will be dropped.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Violations of academic integrity will be penalized in one of the following ways; failing grade on assignment, failing grade in course, and/or student meeting with department chair.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, *it is your responsibility* to contact the Office of AccessAbility Services at (860) 465-5573. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the Office of AccessAbility Services as soon as possible. Please understand that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Office of AccessAbility Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

A FEW IMPORTANT DATES

First day of classes
Last day of classes

SUMMER 2009

July 13 (Mon.)
August 13 (Thurs.)

WHAT TO DO ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE SEMESTER

I. READ DOCUMENT

During the first week of class, all students must read the information located under the "Course Content" tab in Blackboard. Topics covered include

- The Characteristics of the Successful Online Student
- Course Details
- The Learning Modules Master Lesson Plan
- What to Do on the First Day of the Semester

II. COMPUTER READINESS

Make sure your computer is ready for use. Contact WebCT support at webctsupport@easternct.edu when encountering technical difficulties or acquiring MS Word, Excel, or PowerPoint.

III. SEND EMAIL TO INSTRUCTOR

All students must send an email (using the Blackboard mail tool) confirming that you have read the information located under the "Course Content" tab in Blackboard.

This email must be sent by Wednesday, July 15 at 11 pm.

NOTE ABOUT ATTACHMENTS

All documents are to be sent by email (using the Blackboard mail tool) using MS Word. Refer to page 6 of this document for file naming system for submitting your work.

DISCLAIMER

The instructor maintains the right to adjust the course syllabus as needed. The syllabus provides a tentative framework.